



U.S. Department of Justice  
United States Attorney  
District of Kansas

## NEWS RELEASE

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## GRAND JURY RETURNS INDICTMENTS

WICHITA, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that three individuals were indicted today, by a federal grand jury in Wichita, Kansas. Those indicted include:

- **Manuel Gaspar Rocha-Lopez, 45, and Ramon Elenes-Mombela**, age unknown, found in Ellis County, both currently in custody, are each charged with two counts of possession with the intent to distribute a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine, and interstate transportation in aid of racketeering, on or about April 9, 2004.

The indictment alleges that Rocha-Lopez and Elenes-Mombela did knowingly, intentionally, and unlawfully possess with the intent to distribute 500 grams or more (approximately 4.5 kilograms) of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine, a controlled substance. The indictment also alleges that Rocha-Lopez and Elenes-Mombela did travel in interstate commerce through Kansas, with the intent to promote, manage, establish, carry on, or facilitate the promotion, management, establishment, or carrying on of an unlawful activity, i.e. the possession with the intent to distribute more than 500 grams (approximately 4.5 kilograms) of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine, and did perform acts to promote, manage, establish and carry on, and to facilitate the promotion, management, establishment and carrying on of the unlawful activity.

If convicted, each face a minimum of ten years and a maximum of life in federal prison, without parole, on the possession with intent to distribute count, and a maximum of five years on the interstate transportation count. The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Mona Lee Furst.

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- **Tizoni A. Mahoney**, 33, Tucson, Arizona, is charged with one count of possession with the intent to distribute a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of marijuana; one count of felon in possession of a firearm which was not produced in Kansas and had been shipped and transported in interstate commerce; and one count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, all on or about May 23, 2004 in Thomas County, Kansas.

If convicted, Mahoney faces a maximum of twenty years in federal prison, without parole, for possession with intent to distribute a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of marijuana; a maximum of ten years in federal prison, without parole, for felon in possession of a firearm which was not produced in Kansas and had been shipped or transported in interstate commerce; and a maximum of five years in federal prison, without parole, for possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Kansas Highway Patrol and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lanny D. Welch.

As in any criminal case, a person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. The Indictments filed merely contain allegations of criminal conduct.